MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

28th Feb.—British troops are nearing Keren. In Abyssinia Italians retire from Gojjam. Royal Air Force bomb Zula aerodrome and South African Air Force bomb Burgaba and Iscia Baidoa.

Greeks smash Italian counter-attacks in the Central sector. Royal Air Force shoot down 26 enemy planes over Albania.

Eire Government ban sending bank notes outside Eire.

A communique issued in Ankara announces that complete agreement was reached on all problems arising from the international situation during Mr. Eden's conversations with President Ineunu and high Turkish officials.

Royal Air Force bomb Boulogne and Wilhelmshaven, Emden and Quiberon.

Enemy air activity over Britain : A few bombs were dropped at Dover causing little damage and no casualties.

1st Mar.—Bulgaria signs a protocal adhering to the Three-Power Pact. Press office of the British Legation in Sofia is closed. Mobilization of new classes of Army continues. Germans have occupied the Bulgarian port of Varna on the Black Sea.

In Abyssinia Italian troops withdraw towards Addis Ababa and Harar. British forces capture an important mountain pass 20 miles north of Keren in Somaliland. Italian garrison in the Oasis of Kufra south of Benghazi surrendered to the Free French Forces. Royal Air Force bomb Asmara, Assab, Berbera and Neghelli.

British destroyer *Exmoor* is sunk in North Sea in repelling an attack on a convoy.

Mr. John Winant, New American Ambassador, arrives in England.

Malta is raided by enemy planes. No damage caused.

There was little enemy activity over England. An East Coast town was attacked. A small number of people were killed.

Mr. Eden and General Sir John Dill leave Turkey after their talks with the Turkish President.

2nd March.—German troops enter Bulgaria with the "consent of the Royal Bulgarian Government."

Greeks resume offensive in Albania. Artillery operations in the Devoli river valley and the Upper Skumbi are reported. Royal Air Force attack Albanian aerodrome at Berat.

Mr. Eden and General Sir John Dill arrive in Athens.

There was little enemy air activity over Britain. Bombs were dropped at places in North Scotland and East Anglia but little damage was done and no casualties were reported. There was a sharp raid on a small south-west England town, causing damage to a house and some casualties.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked docks at Brest, sea plane base at List and aerodromes in enemy-occupied territory.

Mr. George Rendel, British Minister in Bulgaria, saw King Boris. After Rendel's visit the King received Von Richthofen the German Minister.

3rd Mar.—It is revealed that the Dardanelles Straits and the Bosphorus have been mined by Turkey except for one narrow channel through which no ships will be allowed without a Turkish permit.

It is reported that the Bulgarian Government has closed the Bulgarian frontier until further orders and nobody is allowed to leave without a special permit from the Bulgarian War Office. Males between the ages of 15 and 55 and childless women between the ages of 16 and 50 are called upon to enrol in compulsory labour corps.

The State Department has advised the Treasury to "freeze" the Bulgarian funds in the United States as a result of the entry of German troops into Bulgaria.

In their sweep into Italian Somaliland, British troops reached 80 miles beyond Mogadishu and occupied the villages of Duca, Degli and Abruzzi. It is revealed that the Italian Commander-in-Chief and Governor have fled from Mogadishu towards Harar in Abyssinia.

Doctor Pfisterer of the Wilhelmtrass arrives in Istanbul with a special message from Herr Hitler and important documents for Von Papen, the German Ambassador.

Luftwaffe's air offensive : Bombs dropped on Cardiff, a South Wales town, East Anglia and at a number of points along the north-east coast and in south-east Scotland. A small number of persons were injured in Kent.

Royal Air Force fighters in Corfu shoot down five enemy aircraft. Enemy aircraft raided the Suez Canal area. Some bombs were dropped but there were no casualties.

Royal Air Force attack docks and quays at Boulogne, Ostend, Brest and Cologne and also several aerodromes in enemy-occupied territory. One British machine is missing.

The Moscow Radio announced that the Soviet Foreign office had informed the Bulgarian Minister in Moscow that the Soviet Government considered that the entry of German troops into Bulgaria tended towards the extension of war to the Balkans and that it could not support the attitude of the Bulgarian Government.

The British Coastal Command aircraft attacked a convoy of German supply ships in the North Sea. One ship of about 2,000 tons was torpedoed amid ships.

4th Mar.—Abyssinian Patriot forces occupy the important Italian fort of Buyre and harass an Italian column withdrawing towards Debra-Markos. In Italian Somaliland British forces have taken possession of the whole railway from Mogadishu to Hulo Burti. Ethiopian patriots have occupied the village of Mankusa, eight miles east of Debra Markos in Gojjam area.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked enemy warships off Chimara, Albania and Valona.

Nine German merchant vessels and one Norwegian vessel under German control were sunk during the British Navy's raid on Lofoten islands, according to an Admiralty communiqué.

5th Mar.—British Government break off diplomatic relations with Bulgaria and declare Bulgaria as enemy territory. German troops continue to stream through Bulgaria towards the Greek frontier, and are now at a distance of 15 miles from Svilengrad, on the Greco-Bulgarian frontier near Adrianople. The British Consulate in Belgrade advise all Britons in Yugoslavia to leave the country.

United States Senate leaders decided to oppose any amendments designed to confine the activities of United States troops to the western hemisphere. This followed a statement by Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, expressing the view that such amendments would encourage Japanese aggression.

After a surprise landing, Japanese forces have occupied Pakhoi on the Gulf of Tonkin, 70 miles from the Indo-China border, according to Japanese reports.

Field Marshal Goering had a long conference with General Antonescu.

An official communiqué issued at Athens report that complete agreement on all aspects of the Balkan situation between the British and Greek Governments has been reached after a series of talks between Mr. Anthony Eden and Sir John Dill and the Greek Prime Minister.

Mr. Eden and Sir John Dill have returned to Cairo from their visit to Athens. It is reported that Mr. Eden will remain in the Middle East indefinitely or should be there to interpret Mr. Churchill's political and military strategy. It is known that Mr. Eden was given a very free hand to deal with a situation whose developments have caused no official surprise.

Royal Air Force bombers attack docks at Boulogne. Seven German aircraft are reported to have been destroyed. Three British aircraft are missing.

There was very little enemy activity over Britain. A few bombs were dropped at one place on the south coast but no damage or casualties are reported.

General Weygand, the French Government's Delegate-General in Africa arrives in Vichy.

6th Mar.—The United States ask Italy to close its Consulates at Detroit (Michigan) and Newark (Rhode Islands) and remove the personnel thereof from the Consulates. It is reported that the movements of Italian Consulate officials throughout the United States are to be restricted to the area, in which they exercise their recognized official duties.

A joint communiqué issued by Japan, France and Thailand announces that an Agreement on the principal points of the Japanese mediation proposals for settlement of the Thai-Indo-China dispute has been reached.

There has been considerable activity by single enemy aircraft over England. Bombs dropped in East Anglia, Kent and at one point in the London area. The casualties were small and some damage to buildings was done in a town on the coast of East Anglia.

A Greek submarine has sunk an Italian supply ship in the Ardriatic according to an official Greek communiqué.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 25th February 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 19 Wednesday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest and invasion base at Calais.	Nil.	..
February 20, Thursday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over N. French coast. R.A.F. single-plane bomber raid on invasion base at Ymuiden. R.A.F. night offensive patrols over aerodromes in N. France.	3	..
February 21, Friday.	R.A.F. day fighter sweeps over N. French coast. R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval bases at Wilhelmshaven, Emden, Brest; industrial objectives in W. Ruhr; aerodromes in Holland and France.	2	..
February 22, Saturday.	R.A.F. night bomber raid on naval base at Brest ..	Nil.	..
February 23, Sunday.	R.A.F. night bomber raids on naval base at Brest; invasion bases at Calais and Boulogne.	1	..
February 24, Monday.	R.A.F. night bomber raid on naval base at Brest (docks, submarine base, German cruiser).	Nil.	..
February 25, Tuesday.	R.A.F. day bomber-and-fighter sweep over N. France and coastal shipping. R.A.F. day bomber raid on Flushing (submarine repair and assembly depot). R.A.F. night bomber raids on industrial targets in Ruhr; aerodromes in France; invasion bases at Boulogne, Dunkirk, Calais.	2	3

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 25th February 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
February 19	Nil.	..
February 20	Nil.	..
February 21	Nil.	..
February 22	Nil.	..
February 23	Nil.	—
February 24	Nil.	..
February 25	Nil.	..

TALKING POINTS

THE WEEK.

Bulgaria joined the Axis on 1st March 1941. The ceremony was conducted in Vienna with pomp and Hitler was present. Germany has justified this step by saying that it had become necessary because of Great Britain's intention to extend its sphere of influence in South Eastern Europe so as to attack Germany in the rear. There is, of course, absolutely no foundation for this allegation. But, as in the case of Norway, Hitler thought it necessary to tell the world that he had to forestall Great Britain.

Meanwhile, Greek successes against Italy in Albania continue. A counter-attack in the central sector of the Albanian battle-front was smashed with considerable losses to the enemy. On Friday before the last, the Royal Air Force shot down 26 enemy aeroplanes and it is calculated that, on the Albanian front, 115 Italian aeroplanes have been destroyed for certain by the Royal Air Force and a further 44 planes have probably been destroyed. These figures do not include those destroyed by Greek aeroplanes or those destroyed on the ground.

Friends of Greece all over the world have been shocked by the disaster which has overtaken the town of Larissa where an earthquake has occurred rendering thousands of inhabitants homeless. A particularly repulsive and brutal feature of Italian warfare has been revealed. It would appear that Italian bombers raided this stricken city and dropped several bombs before being driven off.

Mr. Anthony Eden and Sir John Dill have visited Turkey where they were cordially welcomed by the President and the Turkish people. The talks with the Greek authorities which began on Sunday concluded on Wednesday and they are shortly leaving for Cairo. The communiqué issued after the conclusion of the conversations testified to the fact that complete agreement exist between the two countries in respect of all measures that have to be taken to safeguard their interests and to prevent the extension of hostilities. Mr. Eden has paid a remarkable tribute to the stand made by the Greeks against the unscrupulous foe, while, on their part, the Greek Government have expressed warm appreciation of the help rendered by Great Britain's navy and the air force.

Lieutenant-General Cunningham has been made the Military Governor of the territories occupied in Abyssinia and East Africa. Blows have fallen thick and fast on Italian possessions in Africa. In Eritrea an important mountain pass, 20 miles north of Keren, has been captured and it is stated that this position will have an important part to play in the operations against that city. In Abyssinia further progress has been made along the road to Gondar. On Tuesday last, Abyssinian Patriot forces occupied the Italian garrison of Burye and are harassing the Italian column withdrawing towards Debra-Marcos. The march to Addis Ababa will not be long delayed. A remarkable thing about these operations is that 1,700 troops belonging to Italy have surrendered.

In Somaliland two important places, Iscia Baidoa and Bulmo Buti, about 170 miles north-west and due north respectively of Mogadishu, have been captured with large stocks of arms, petrol, foodstuffs and stores of all kinds. It is computed that 10,000 Italian soldiers have been captured in the operations in British Somaliland.

In regard to the operations in North Africa, it should be remembered that there are great geographical difficulties. High mountains obstruct the path to Keren and there are no good communications in that part of the country and the Keren frontier deserts have to be passed. In spite of these obstacles remarkable successes have been achieved. This is attributed to the close and constant co-operation between the army, navy and air force. The total number of prisoners taken so far in the African campaign total 144,000.

What is described as "one of the greatest fire raids of the war" took place on Monday last, Cardiff being the victim. Enormous number of incendiaries were showered and a number of buildings were laid waste. Successive waves of raiders poured fire bombs and high explosives into several fires and many poor houses were destroyed. Heavy casualties were inflicted and the raid was repeated the next day.

It is announced that Ex-King Carol of Rumania and Madame Lupescu have escaped from Seville in Spain and reached Lisbon. They have been prisoners there during the last five months and their lives were in constant danger owing to the activities of Iron Guardists. The escape has created a sensation.

A joint communiqué by Japan, France and Thailand says that agreement has been reached on the principal points of the Japanese mediation proposals for settlement of the Indo-China-Thailand dispute. The remaining points of detail, it is said, will be settled in a few days. It remains to be seen whether this settlement implies lessening of the tension in the Far East.

A remarkable achievement of the Royal Navy on Tuesday has been revealed. Light units of the British navy landed Norwegian marines and British troops on Lofoten islands near Narwik in Norway and destroyed enemy shipping totalling 18,000 tons, the largest unit being a fully-laden German ship of 10,000 tons. The object of the raid, which was realized, was to destroy the plant used for the production of fish oil, utilised as glycerine for making explosives, destroy also German

ships in the locality and take prisoner Germans there. Two hundred and fifteen Germans and ten Quislings were captured and 300 Norwegian Patriots brought to England.

BULGARIA.

The joining of Bulgaria with the Axis, and the march into that country of German troops in ever increasing numbers were not unexpected. Great Britain has had to sever diplomatic relations with Bulgaria. This need not necessarily mean war against Bulgaria which would depend upon the progress of events. But the Nazis have got control of oil fields and these and troop concentrations would be legitimate targets for the Royal Air Force. "His Majesty's Government", said Mr. R. A. Butler, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in the House of Commons on Thursday last, "have no doubt that Bulgaria will live to regret her decision".

About a week ago Hitler said that there was no question of German troops marching into Bulgaria. But on Saturday last Bulgaria was in Hitler's pocket. It was also stated that Russia had supported this move of Bulgaria and the broadcast from Hungary on Monday stated that Russia had acquiesced in the step. Both these were black lies. Moscow has not approved of Bulgaria joining the Axis; far from doing so, U.S.S.R. has clearly made it known that this step was bound to extend the war. As a commentator has put it, the list of Quislings has been added to by King Boris and the new order of Hitler has been recognized by him leading to humiliating surrender and capitulation. As Slovakia, Hungary and Rumania have been rendered slave States, so Bulgaria has been by its disgraceful act and it has thus actively assisted in the extension of the war, as the Moscow Radio has put it. The Bulgarian parliament has approved of the measure and that country ironically enough celebrated its independence day on Monday, March 3rd! That Russia has openly disapproved of Bulgaria's action may not mean much so far as the progress of hostilities are concerned. But it is undoubtedly a threat against Germany and the first cleavage between Germany and U.S.S.R. after the pact was entered into at the end of 1939. Already Yugoslovia is being threatened; probably it will be almost completely cut off politically and economically. Greece is being told that her alliance with Great Britain cannot but offend her. Already German forces are being concentrated on the Greecian frontier and it is believed that if Greece does not accept a dictated peace she would be invaded. What may happen afterwards cannot be stated in the complicated situation which now faces the world. It may well be that Mr. Eden's visit to Turkey and Greece, the cordial relationship existing between the three countries, and the Nile army of Wavell the wizard, would play an important part in the subsequent events.

THE SHIPPING POSITION.

A good deal is being said about the loss of British shipping by German submarines, raiders, aircraft and mines. Mr. A. V. Alexander. First Lord of the Admirlty, gave some figures in respect of shipping losses. He said that up to May 1940, the losses of British, Allied and neutral ships from enemy action averaged 40,000 tons a week. During the next seven months, the losses remained obstinately at the average of just under 90,000 tons. During the last eleven weeks, the losses averaged about 51,000 tons. It may be mentioned in this connection that a great maritime power should expect to lose shipping in war. In the Napoleonic Wars no fewer than ten thousand British merchant ships of all sizes were captured by French privateers. Again, in 1917, the British, Allied and neutral losses amounted to 6,325,000 tons. At that time Britain had the assistance of three and finally four other navies for patrolling the seas. Moreover, at the commencement of the Great War British possessed a larger merchant tonnage than she had in 1939, and American shipping was free to sail for her. In 1940, total losses were 3,591,000 tons, or little more than half the losses in 1917. No one doubts the seriousness of the losses which are being and will be inflicted in future by the enemy. As a matter of fact, Mr. Churchill recently stated: "We must expect that next year still heavier U-boat attacks will be made." But the figures represent only about one-half the average of 1917, in spite of the fact that Great Britain is compelled, by force of circumstances, especially after the fall of France, to scatter her fleet round the British Isles, in the Eastern and Western Mediterranean, in the Western Atlantic and the Far East. She moreover possesses no navel base on the continent. As against these losses, it should be remembered that the British Admiralty has speeded up the nation's replacement rate to about 2,000,000 tons a year. Vessels of foreign register are being purchased and orders have been placed for about 100 ships from American shipyards. The position has been neatly summarised by Mr. Alexander. He said: "New ships delivered from British yards *plus* the tonnage acquired abroad and the volume of captured enemy ships now in our service has replaced more than two-thirds of the tonnage of British ships lost by enemy action. In addition we had the advantage of chartering ships of the states overrun by the enemy".

What is the position of the enemy? Germany does not publish her shipping losses. Dr. Goebbels' only business is to broadcast fantastic claims of British shipping losses. For instance, in August 1939, the German radio said that Britain had lost three quarters of her merchant shipping and two days later a German newspaper stated that England had lost approximately one-third of her useful shipping tonnage. So far as enemy losses are

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TURKEY AND THE BALKANS

FIRM IN ITS FRIENDSHIP TO BRITAIN

Everybody is asking what the attitude of Turkey will be in the present crisis in the Balkans. The visit of Mr. Anthony Eden, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, to Ankara and their conversations with the Turkish President and high officials, civil and military, have had a remarkable effect. These conversations which were concluded on Friday last should have far-reaching repercussions on the Balkan situation. The communiqué issued in Ankara on that day stated that complete agreement was reached on all problems arising from the international situation during Mr. Eden's conversations with President Ineunu and high Turkish Government officials. The two Governments, it stated, once more asserted complete attachment to the Turko-British alliance. Reviewing the conditions in the Balkans and the present international situation the communiqué stated that "complete agreement was again reached on the policy of the two Governments regarding all these problems." The remarkable success of the visit, especially when Hitler had succeeded in putting Bulgaria into his pocket, and in spite of vigorous and tendentious propaganda carried on by Germany, constitutes a defeat of Nazi diplomacy. How feverishly anxious Hitler is, may be seen from the fact that he has sent a special emissary by plane to President Ineunu with a special message the contents of which have not yet been revealed. But there can be no doubt about the Turkish attitude as a result of Bulgaria's surrender to Nazi threats which is, as a newspaper put it "that though Bulgaria has not entered into the war she is no more a neutral and that if in consequence of this development a war which we were not seeking should come to us, it will not find us weak or take us by surprise."

Before the outbreak of the present war Turkey tried on the one hand to build up a Balkan Entente and on the other a block of the Muslim countries in the Near East in order to prevent the extension of the war and secure the safety of the small countries round about her. But the Balkan Entente, owing to the collapse of France and the increasing German pressure on the Balkans has proved a failure. Of all the nations which formed the Balkan Entente, that is, Greece, Rumania, Turkey and Yugoslavia, Greece alone has chosen to stem the tide of aggression. It is pertinent here to refer to the treaty concluded at the end of February 1938 between Greece and Turkey. Under this treaty, which was to be in force for ten years, Greece and Turkey promised to remain neutral if one of them was attacked. Each country would prevent the transport of troops, munitions or armaments through its territory to any State attacking either of them. Each also promised to use her good offices for mediation in case of attack. If, however, war should break out the two States would reconsider the situation and would reach an agreement corresponding to their interests. Each State promised not to allow any organization in its territories directed against the safety of the other. It will be seen that though there is no mention of one rushing to the help of the other if one is attacked, further co-operation would depend on the situation as it arose from time to time. Salonika may well be stated to be within "the zone of safety" of Turkey and if there is any intention on the part of any aggressive power to use Greece as a jumping off ground for attack on Turkey, then Turkey will know what to do.

One real difficulty faced Turkey. After the close of the Finnish campaign the relations between Turkey and Russia considerably improved and Russia was interested in keeping Turkey neutral so that extension of the war to the Balkans might be prevented. There was of course, some little doubt that as Russia had entered into a close economic collaboration with Germany, perhaps on account of fear of German military power, Turkey may consider herself to be placed in a very awkward situation; but the expression of Soviet displeasure at Bulgaria's action in joining the Tripartite Pact has removed this difficulty. In a broadcast from Moscow on Monday and repeated on successive days—a broadcast which has created a sensation in all the capitals of Europe and in America—it was categorically stated that the Soviet Government cannot share the view of the Bulgarian Government as to the correctness of her attitude in this question of her joining the Tripartite Pact as this attitude, independently of whether the Bulgarian Government wishes it, would lead not to the consolidation of peace but to extension of the sphere of war and the involving of Bulgaria in the war. The Soviet Government, the broadcast stated, true to its peace policy, was not in a position to render any support whatever to the Bulgarian Government in the execution of her present policy. Whatever results may flow from these statements, one thing is pretty clear and it is that Turkey will not consider, in any measure which she may take to check aggression, that she is likely to wound the susceptibilities of Soviet Russia.

What has Turkey done in the face of this crisis? The Dardanelles Straits and the Bosphorus have been mined except for one narrow channel. A decision has been reached to compel all vessels using the Straits to be piloted by Turkish pilots. This has been done in accordance with the provisions of the Montreux Convention. According to this Convention, if Turkey considered herself threatened with imminent danger of war she was entitled to insist that vessels should enter the Straits by day and proceed along a route indicated by the Turkish authorities. Again she has taken extraordinary defence measures to safeguard

her interests especially because Bulgaria lies within the Turkish zone of security. The Ankara radio, much to the discomfiture of Hitler, described the German occupation of Bulgaria, as murder of another country's freedom.

Where Hitler's next blow will fall and whether he would try to isolate Turkey by a promise of concessions and ask her to be neutral if he converts Salonika as a base of operations in the Eastern Mediterranean are questions, answers to which cannot now be given. But one thing about which there can be no doubt is that Turkey is firm in her adherence to her treaty with Great Britain and nothing is likely to shake her from that position. It will be interesting to recall the terms of this treaty which was concluded as one of a reciprocal character in the interests of their national security and to provide for mutual assistance in resistance to aggression. France was also a party to the treaty. The text of the important Articles of the Treaty is as follows:—

ARTICLE 1.—In the event of Turkey being involved in hostilities with a European Power in consequence of aggression by that Power against Turkey, the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom will co-operate effectively with the Turkish Government and will lend it all aid and assistance in their power.

ARTICLE 2.—(i) In the event of an act of aggression by a European Power leading to war in the Mediterranean area in which France and the United Kingdom are involved, Turkey will collaborate effectively with France and the United Kingdom and will lend them all aid and assistance in her power.

(ii) In the event of an act of aggression by a European Power leading to war in the Mediterranean area in which Turkey is involved France and the United Kingdom will collaborate effectively with Turkey and will lend her all aid and assistance in their power.

ARTICLE 3.—So long as the guarantees given by France and the United Kingdom to Greece and Rumania by their respective declarations of April 13, 1939, remain in force Turkey will co-operate effectively with France and the United Kingdom and will lend them all aid and assistance in her power in the event of France and the United Kingdom being engaged in hostilities in virtue of either of the said guarantees.

ARTICLE 4.—In the event of France and the United Kingdom being involved in hostilities with a European Power in consequence of aggression committed by that Power against either of those States, without the provisions of articles 2 or 3 being applicable, the High Contracting Parties will immediately consult together.

It is nevertheless agreed that in such an eventuality Turkey will observe at least a benevolent neutrality towards France and the United Kingdom.

ARTICLE 5.—Without prejudice to the provisions of article 3 above, in the event of either

(i) Aggression by a European Power against another European State which the Government of one of the High Contracting Parties had, with the approval of that State, undertaken to assist in maintaing its independence or neutrality against such aggression; or

(ii) Aggression by a European Power which, while directed against another European State constituted in the opinion of the Government of one of the High Contracting Parties a menace to its own security,

the High Contracting Parties will immediately consult together with a view to such common action as might be considered effective.

ARTICLE 6.—The present treaty is not directed against any country, but is designed to assure France, the United Kingdom, and Turkey of mutual aid and assistance in resistance to aggression should the necessity arise.

ARTICLE 7.—The provisions of the present treaty are equally binding as bilateral obligations between Turkey and each of the two other High Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 8.—If the High Contracting Parties are engaged in hostilities in consequence of the operation of the present treaty they will not conclude an armistice or peace except by common agreement.

The treaty was concluded for a period of fifteen years.

TALKING POINTS

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concerned, it is known that 233 German and Italian merchant ships have been bottled up in neutral ports—a striking proof of British supremacy at sea. The enemy has lost two million tons sunk, captured or scuttled and over a million tons are lying useless in neutral harbours. So far as Great Britain is concerned, the total tonnage rescued and saved up to the end of the last year was over a million tons. Up to February 1941, Germany has lost one-fourth and Italy one-third of their pre-war merchant fleet and it is a point to remember that their vessels, when they leave port, if at all, have to hug the coast.

The position, therefore, is that by meeting submarine warfare and facing the menace in other ways, Britain is still able to keep her shipping losses well below the level of 1917. The Royal Navy is being steadily reinforced by new ships and it is reasonable to hope that the present favourable figures will be generally maintained. But the public must expect sudden increases in losses. Britain is maintaining her imports and she has large reserves of all kinds. Methods are being employed to meet the situation by the expansion of aerial reconnaissance, by punishment by the Royal Air Force of U-boat bases, by developing anti-submarine tactics, by destruction of enemy submarine flotillas, and by defensive arming of merchant ships.

A RUMANIAN CALENDAR

DECLINE AND FALL

[This calendar is in continuation of the Rumanian Calendar published in *The Madras War Review*, Issue No. 3, Vol. I., dated the 12th October 1940.]

1940, *Oct.* 15.—Reported arrival of Italian air officers and German naval officers at Black Sea port of Constanza.

1940, Nov. 9.—Bulgarian Government protests against alleged ill-treatment of refugees from Northern Dobruja at Rumanian-controlled frontier posts.

1940, Nov. 14.—The Duce stages "full-dress" reception for the Conducator on his arrival in Rome.

Five-point decree benefits Germans of Rumanian nationality :—

(i) Nuremburg Anti-Jewish laws introduced.

(ii) Equal status for German flag with Rumanian flag.

(iii) Nazi party a protected juridical body.

(iv) Membership of the party limited to those who are "German-conscious".

(v) Leadership authorized to issue regulations concerning German autonomy rights.

1940, Nov. 15.—Demobilization of Rumanian armed forces mobilized when Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina were ceded to Russia.

1940, Nov. 23.—General Antonescu, in Berlin, signs protocol signifying Rumanian adhesion to the Three Power Axis Pact.

Official Rumanian newspaper *Currentul* comments :—"We have always loved the Germans and Rumania will fight only for Germany, even if this should mean the collapse of Rumania."

1940, Nov. 27.—Former Rumanian Premier, General Argesianu, among 64 political prisoners, shot by Legionaries in the military prison at Jilavy.

Members of Rumanian Legation in London resign as protest against recent political developments in Rumania and particularly the Iron Guard mass murders.

M. Tilea, former Rumanian Minister in London, declares :—"They are suffering from European mental disease. I can affirm with complete confidence that it is condemned by 99 per cent of Rumanians themselves. These acts of lunatics prove also how weak and unpopular the present pro-Nazi regime is in Rumania."

1940, Nov. 30.—German Army "instructional cadre" in Rumania now numbers 60,000.

Executive of Iron Guard publishes warning that "the Legionaries will defend their power against all comers".

1940, DEC. 1.—General Antonescu, speaking on 22nd Anniversary of Rumania's acquisition of Transylvania, criticises his predecessors for surrendering territory to Hungary (at Axis dictation). "But we are all to blame," he added. "The frontiers fell without an attempt to defend them because we had weakened ourselves at home. But immortal Rumania will arise again from her ashes".

1940, DEC. 2.—King Michael, accompanied by General Antonescu and Rumanian and German officials, watches parade of Germany's mechanized troops and tanks in Bucharest—"to celebrate Rumania's adhesion to the Axis Pact".

1940, DEC. 3.—Iron Guard police dissolved.

1940, DEC. 7.—Decree institutes death penalty for armed rebels, who will be tried by court composed of three generals.

1940, DEC. 15.—Official communique reports arrest of number of "Communists", mostly Jews, alleged to have distributed subversive literature.

1941, JAN 4.—Arrival in Bucharest of Baron Von Killinger, new German Minister, coincides with fresh "Purge" by Iron Guard collaborators with the Gestapo.

1941, JAN. 5.—Telephone communication with outside world suspended—even diplomatic calls cut off.

1941, JAN. 7.—Sveral Iron Guards reported killed in clashes between rival factions of the Legionary movement. According to Government, trouble due to Communists who have entered the ranks of the Iron Guard in recent years, and these are blamed for the many examples of "outlawry" since the establishment of the Legionary régime following King Carol's abdication.

1941, JAN. 12.—Four thousand tons of food being sent every month to Germany.

Peasant Leader, Dr. Maniu, sends protests to Government declaring that German troops are depriving the people of their bread and that the country is heading for a revolution.

1941, JAN. 16.—General Antonescu, summoned urgently to Germany, arrives in Salzburg for secret meeting with Ribbentrop.

1941, JAN. 18.—Ankara radio says German troops in Rumania now total 150,000.

1941, JAN. 19.—M. Sima, Deputy Premier and Iron Guard leader, calls simultaneous meetings of his followers in towns throughout the country. Speakers address the nation on the "Struggle of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy for the establishment of a new European order".

Major Doehring, member of German Military mission, shot dead in Bucharest street.

General Petrovicescu, Minister of Interior, resigns; succeeded by General Popescu.

1941, JAN. 20.—Dissident Iron Guards attempt COUP D'ETAT.

1941, JAN. 22 and 23.—Vicious night-long pogrom; shops looted and burned down in all Jewish districts of Bucharest; massacres of Jews in many provincial towns.

1941, JAN. 23.—General Antonescu accuses Petrovicescu and Sima as instigators of plot to overthrow Government; orders the Rumanian Army into action against rebels. Street-fighting with armoured cars and machine guns. Army breaks back of revolt before sundown. Casualties (official figures) :—380 killed, 444 wounded.

1941, JAN. 25.—General Antonescu : "It is my duty to testify before the whole nation that during these days I felt behind me the great and loyal shadow of the Fuehrer and the honour of the German Reich which has guaranteed our frontiers. I feel that the nation should be proud of its connection with the Axis."

1941, JAN. 28.—General Antonescu forms new Cabinet of 7 generals and a colonel. "The Government," he says, "formed on a military basis, is an expression of the unity and discipline imposed by the circumstances of today on the entire country".

Drastic decrees (i) make it an offence to possess firearms or hold public meetings, (ii) legalize house-to-house searches for rebels and (iii) provide for their trial within 24 hours and execution of sentences within 10 hours of conviction.

Dissident Iron Guards arrested for complicity in revolt total 5,600.

Rumanian Army takes over control of all police stations at frontier posts, ports, aerodromes and railway stations. Several industrial concerns placed under military administration.

Rumanian General Staff COMMUNIQUE requires all reserve officers and other ranks to report for one month's training during February and March.

Repatriation of German minority in Rumania postponed indefinitely.

1941, FEB. 2.—Iron Guard Youth Association dissolved; Rumanian boys and girls to be reorganized on model of Hitler Jugend. Rumanian workers' organization on lines of German Labour Front also being formed.

Three Rumanian officers shot by unknown woman in front of Bucharest University.

Editor Seicani of Rumanian newspaper CURENTUL predicts that a "motorized German army will sweep through the Balkan Peninsula like a hurricane within a short time to deliver a blow so crushing that the enemy will never recover his senses."

1941, FEB. 7.—Further Nazi infiltration reported. Estimates of total strength of German Army in Rumania vary from 200,000 to 350,000.

1941, FEB. 9.—Mr. Churchill :—"The Nazis, having absorbed Hungary and driven Rumania into frightful internal convulsions, are now already upon the Black Sea. A formidable German army and air force is being built up in Rumania. . . . Many preparations are being made to move German troops into or through Bulgaria, and perhaps this southward movement has already begun."

1941, FEB. 10.—Black-outs ordered in oil areas and big towns of Rumania. Railways requisitioned for German troop movements.

Sir Reginald Hoare, British Minister in Bucharest, asks General Antonescu for his passports.

1941, FEB. 12.—Mr. Eden, in Parliament, reads note that British Minister had been instructed to send to General Antonescu :—"It has become abundantly evident that the Government which you have directed in the past six months has become entirely dependent upon Germany. Actual facts and the numerous statements published by yourself confirm this. Some months ago you informed me that a small number of German troops were arriving in Rumania to instruct the Rumanian army in modern methods of warfare and that the necessary equipment was likewise being dispatched from Germany for the rearmament of Rumanian troops.

"Some instruction has no doubt been imparted, but the essential development is that the German High Command is building up in Rumania all the elements of an expeditionary force and is concentrating at various strategic points large supplies of munitions, fuel and oil. Rumania is thus being used by Germany as a military base in furtherance of her plans for prosecuting the war. These measures are being taken without one word of dissent from you. In these circumstances His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom have decided to recall me and withdraw the Diplomatic Mission and Consular offices under my control."

1941, FEB. 14.—Rumanian Mission in London recalled. Only six minor officials return to Rumania (Feb. 15). Chargé d'-Affaires Florescu resigns, issuing statement declaring that he has contemplated resignation for a long time and has only continued in office for the sake of safeguarding the interests of Rumania as long as Britain maintained relations with her. "I have complete faith in the final success of the ideals for which Britain stands. Only by strong foundation given to international law shall we be able to avoid in future international ruthlessness of the kind we are experiencing to-day. It is not a question of turning against my country. We have no country, only Nazi domination, to which I refuse to submit."

British Ministry of Economic Warfare announces that "the British Government has decided that they must now regard Rumania as a territory under enemy occupation. As from February 15, therefore, Rumania will be regarded as an enemy destination for contraband purposes and all goods of Rumanian origin or ownership will be liable to seizure."

1941, FEB. 15.—British, Dutch and Belgian Ministers sail from Constanza.

(Continued on Page 10)

SCIENCE IN WAR

Professor W. L. Bragg in the course of a recent broadcast talk, said:

The present war has been called a scientists' and engineers' war, and it is worth considering why.

We are living in an age when machines of all kinds, methods of transport, electrical devices are improving rapidly from year to year. The same is true of the weapons of war. Tanks, aeroplanes and radio, are getting more and more efficient as the war goes on.

The position at the beginning of the war was as follows. The Navy, Army and Air Force had their own service research departments, manned by scientific experts. The great majority of them were either helping our industry by working for firms or in government research laboratories or they were doing pure research in the Universities.

When war threatened us, the Royal Society, the chief scientific body in the country, set about making a central register of scientists. Roughly speaking, there are about ten thousand scientific researchers in this country. To quote a few figures, there are 1,600 chemists, 1,000 physicists, 500 mathematicians, 700 zoologists, and 1,500 engaged in medical research, and so forth. Of these about one-half were already in posts so important to industry that they had to keep some of their staff to teach their students. There remained three or four thousand scientists in the Universities and Technical Colleges who could be set free and so form a reserve on which the Navy, Army and Air Force could draw.

WHAT ARE THE SCIENTISTS DOING?

Apart from the small band of experts in the service departments, our scientists in this country were engaged in peaceable occupations and there was a general reluctance to divert their energies to war work. It is fortunate, however, that the British are good at improvising in an emergency. Though I cannot give any of our secrets away, I can quote a German story to remind you that British science does not compare so badly with that of our adversaries. In that interesting book *I Was the "Graf Spee's Prisoner*, the author, Captain Dove, quotes Captain Langsdorf of the *Graf Spee* about the magnetic mine. 'We invented this weapon eight years ago', he said, 'and for eight years we have ourselves been trying to find the antidote to it. We have not succeeded yet. Now the British Navy has to start where we began eight years ago.' You know now that the antidote to the magnetic mine was found not in eight years but in eight weeks.

What are our scientists doing? Although at the beginning of the war they could not all be put to work at once, the difficulty now is to find enough men. Orders come in to the central register, for five dozen physicists or a hundred electrical engineers at a time. Many are working on electrical devices of all kinds. Electricity is used for communications, for control, and for detection. It is like the nerves and senses of modern machines. Think of the maze of electrical circuits in a modern battleship, conveying messages, controlling the guns, performing the mathematical calculations of the range finders, sending radio messages, controlling the compass, and performing many other duties, and you will see what I mean. Under the stimulus of war, electrical devices are being improved at a rate which would have seemed unbelievable in peace time, especially in the field of radio, where our best electrical engineers and physicists are working. Others are tackling acute problems such as putting out of action time fuses and booby traps in unexploded bombs. Then there is the important problem of making sense out of the secret instruments captured from the enemy, which are often very complicated. Chemists are working on substitute materials of all kinds such as plastics and on explosives and with the medical profession on new compounds for the treatment of wounds and disease. Engineers and physicists are working on the many problems which arise from the air war, the effects of blast, design of shelters, and economy of building materials. Biologists are working on the pests which, if not guarded against, infest the stores of food we have laid in, and on the new problems of agriculture in war conditions. These are a few of many applications of science.

The rate at which some scientific war problems are being solved is almost incredible; more advance is made in a year than in ten years of peace. One cannot help thinking, 'Why not do the same in peace time?' If the same team-work could be put into tackling dirt, disease, smoky and ugly cities, better use of the land, improving our industries and so on, there is no doubt that problems which have been bogeys for generations would disappear in a few years. Of one thing I am sure. Scientists are doing their best to help the country in war time. You may imagine with what enthusiasm they would join in a similar nation-wide effort in times of peace, and how much more congenial to them their share in it would be.

A RUMANIAN CALENDAR

(*Continued from Page* 9)

Royal Decree abrogates law of September 14, 1940, which made Iron Guard only legal party in Rumania. Decree also forbids formation of any political association or organization.

So Iron Guard and Nazi Party are now the only legal political organizations. (See Nov. 14, 1940.)

1941, FEB. 17.—Ex-Rumanian Minister M. Grecianu has been arrested for complicity in the January disturbances in Rumania.

1941, FEB. 25.—General Antonescu announces that a general election will be held in Rumania on March 2—a plebescite, on the Nazi model, to say whether the people approve General Antonescu's policy.

1941, MAR. 4.—It is announced that the final result of the Rumanian plebescite on General Antonescu's policy, was as follows: "Yes" 2,018,000; "No" 2,558 votes.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Who Began It?

Doubtless in expectation of the wrath to come, the Nazi radio all this week—February 17th to 23rd—has been trying to shift responsibility for the horrors of aerial warfare from German shoulders to those of the Royal Air Force. On February 19, for instance, Berlin stated categorically that it was British airmen who first began the bombing of enemy cities behind the lines, and that they were therefore to blame for the sufferings of their own civilians as a result of the *Luftwaffe's* " retaliatory raids ".

In support of this contention, the Germans quote British sources as a reminder that the Royal Air Force started bombing objectives inside Germany as early as May 1940, *i.e.*, before the Nazis began their air *Blitzkrieg* on British cities and towns.

Quite apart from the fact that there is overwhelming neutral testimony that the Royal Air Force displays scrupulous care and great skill in bombing only military objectives, whereas the Nazi raids on Britain have all along been indiscriminate, Dr. Goebbels is unwise to bring up the question of dates at all.

Has he forgotten that German airmen were bombing Polish cities, towns and villages and machine-gunning Polish refugees in the open country, during the very earliest days of the Polish campaign in September 1939? Does he imagine that the world has forgotten the fiendish destruction of the fair city of Warsaw, which surrendered to the Germans on September 27 after every one of its 50 hospitals had been reduced to ruins and the disruption of sewers and water-mains threatened epidemics?

The crime of Warsaw was attested at the time by independent and reputable neutral observers, among them being American, Egyptian and Scandinavian diplomats and journalists; nor did the Germans then attempt to disclaim the responsibility. On the contrary, Dr. Goebbels himself prepared a propaganda film, " *Baptism* of Fire ' featuring ' the destruction of Warsaw ", which was exhibited in neutral countries—and which, incidentally was received with horror by the then still neutral Italians.

Moonlight and Moonshine.

Turning to the Royal Air Force's operations against the Italians, the German wireless has this week alleged that British pilots recently " took advantage of the moonlight to aim their bombs at the homes of innocent civilians " on Rhodes, in the Dodecanese Islands. But Berlin does not explain why the Royal Air Force should waste its bombs on civilians—who are Greeks, anyway, and loathe the Italians—instead of dropping them on enemy garrisons and aerodromes.

Needless to say, it is the defences of Rhodes which are being attacked—and to such purpose that the position of the Italians throughout the Dodecanese is now regarded as desperate. Indeed, so effective has been the combination of Britain's naval blockade and air offensive that refugees who reached Athens last week said that the Italians in some centres were urging the civilians to revolt, in order to hasten the occupation of the islands by the British.

Incidentally, Berlin's complaint that the Royal Air Force " took advantage of the moonlight " recalls a recent wail from Rome that the British Navy " took advantage of the fog " in order to bombard Genoa!

Today's Prophecies—and Yesterday's

Along with the smoke-screen of rumours which Germany has recently been throwing out in the Balkans, her propagandists have begun to revive last year's threat of an imminent invasion of Britain. The Nazi radio itself, of course, is taking a prominent part in this new campaign, and on February 23 there was broadcast, a quotation from the *Voelkescher Beobachter*, which concluded: " The decisive phase of the war will follow in due course. . . Britain is doomed."

These new Nazi prophecies make interesting reading; so do their old ones. Here are some of the things which the enemy wireless told us last year.

On July 18, soon after the French collapse and when Britain's situation did indeed look perilous:

" The German artillery will smash everything to bits. London will become a heap of ruins and the poor wretches waiting for the Nazis will never see them. The remnants of the streets of London will remain quiet for ever ".

On August 17, when the Luftwaffe's *mass daylight raids on the English coast were beginning*:

" The German attack has no parallel in history ".

On September 11, a few days before Hitler's mid-month invasion plans was to be put into operation:

" London lies utterly destroyed ".

On September 19, a few days after that plan had been given up because the Royal Air Force had smashed the German invasion preparations:

" Observation flights over London have revealed that the entire metropolis has been destroyed ".

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

A German " Gesture "

The Berlin Hindustani bulletin of February 18 contained Belgian reports that Germany had sent 80,000 tons of wheat to Belgium to relieve the people's anxiety about food supplies. It may be recalled that a German home broadcast on August 5, 1940 boasted that " it is not within British power to let Europe starve. . . It is impossible to see how the Continent could get into food difficulties."

This new German "gesture" is, therefore, presumably intended to impress the American public, but it has been officially stated that the United States Government is taking no part in advancing Mr. Herbert Hoover's experimental plan for Belgian relief.

In any case, the bread ration in Belgium is the lowest in any of the Western occupied countries—1,575 grs. as compared with 2,250 grs. in Germany; and, as for fat, the Belgian weekly ration is 106 grs. as against Germany's 270 grams. Moreover, according to Sigrid Schultz, writing in the *New York Daily News*, the Belgian farmers were informed that all potato crops, except an allowance of 1½ lb. per head of each household for livestock and replanting, must be handed over to the German authorities.

British Sea Power

On February 19, the Nazi bulletin in Hindustani, Persian and Arabic attributed to Sweden wild reports to the effect that, due to shortage of shippings, British ships would discontinue sailings in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and went on to declare that 'this throws light on the extent of shipping losses suffered by Britain".

It is well known that authorities in London have never minimized the German threat to shipping, but in spite of all Nazi boasts about submarine warfare and the blockade of Britain, the total British losses are only about 16 per cent, of their pre-war tonnage against the total Axis loss of 40 per cent. In addition to this, at least 233 Axis ships are lying useless in neutral harbours, not daring to put to sea.

The arrival in this country within the last few days of sea-borne mails from Britain, South Africa and the Far East proves that British ships are still sailing the Indian and Pacific Oceans. And the arrival in Singapore last week of thousands of Australian troops is only another proof of the fact that Britain still commands the seas.

Germans on "Ordinary Successes"

The Nazi broadcast in Hindustani of February 19 quoted a German newspaper as stating that there was no longer any trumpeting of British successes in North Africa because these successes were "ordinary."

The successes in North Africa included the fall of Bardia, which had been considered by the Government controlled Rome Radio as a "bastion of Fascism" and also of Bengazhi, capital of Cyrenaica, about which the German paper *Frankfurter Zeitung* wrote last December: "Before using the word 'decisive' the British would have to advance as far as Bengazhi". The Axis could hardly welcome any more such "ordinary successes".

Eden in Africa

Harping again on the theme of "ordinary successes in North Africa" the German radio in its Hindustani broadcast, of February 21 revealed that Mr. Eden's visit to Egypt meant that fresh difficulties had cropped up. Actually, however, Mr. Eden has gone to Cairo because the time is now ripe for a full review of the political and military situation in the Middle East and Africa as the outcome of the brilliant victory of the Army of the Nile. And, in view of the fact that Mr. Eden has first-hand knowledge of the problems and personalities of this part of the world, the British War Cabinet's choice is most natural. It will be recalled too, that Mr. Eden's last visit to North Africa was followed by General Wavell's victorious offensive.

Australian Pledge to Britain

The German broadcasts in Persian and Arabic of February 21 say that the Australian Premier had gone to England to acquaint himself with the true plight of that country. But was it merely for this that the Australian Premier made the long journey to England?

The answer is found in Mr. Menzies' own declaration which reads: "I am delighted to come to England and to say to the people of England, on behalf of the people of Australia, that we are on your side and that you will never be beaten while there are any of us above the surface."

Germans spread Epidemics in India

On February 21, the German broadcast in Hindustani referred to Indian reports of epidemics in Bombay, and accused the British Government in India of having done nothing to improve Indian health.

Epidemics like smallpox are a seasonal phenomenon and usually break out at this time of the year. And, as for the charge that the Government "allows" thousands of Indians to fall victim of these epidemics, we should note that the estimated increase in population for the decade ending this year is 13·4 per cent, a record unsurpassed for the last 60 years. The growth of population at the end of each decade has varied according to the incidence of famines and epidemics; and this unprecedented increase in the population of the country is due mainly to the fact that, during the last 18 years, India has been free from major epidemics.

Britain's Steel Resources

On February 17 the Nazi broadcasts in Hindustani and Persian published a report that by removing and melting iron railings in front of the British Parliament, Britain has obtained 15 tons of iron ore, and deduced that Britain is facing an acute shortage of iron. Berlin need have no illusions on this score. As long ago as November 27, 1940, Mr. Arthur Greenwood was in a position to announce that since the outbreak of war, the British output of war equipment had been more than trebled and the output of some fighting material had been quadrupled.

Moreover Britain can, to an ever-increasing extent, depend upon the steel output of the United States of America which will in 1941 exceed 80 million tons and is more than the rest of the world's steel put together.

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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